

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An apparatus receiving request data from a request source and providing response data corresponding to the request data, comprising:

5 a control information recording unit recording control information related to an area of which data is restricted from being provided;

 an edit unit creating, when the data should be provided as the response data, the response data in
10 accordance with the control information by hiding the data area restricted from being provided; and

 a transmitting unit providing the response data.

2. An apparatus receiving request data from a request source and providing response data corresponding to the request data, comprising:

 a request source recognizing unit recognizing said request source;

 a control information recording unit recording
20 control information related to data restricted from being provided depending on said request source;

 an edit unit creating the response data corresponding to the request data in accordance with the control information by hiding an area restricted
25 from being provided; and

 a transmitting unit providing the response data.

3. An apparatus according to claim 2, wherein
the control information contains information for
identifying said request source, and designating
information for designating a data area restricted
5 from being provided to said request source.

4. An apparatus according to claim 3, wherein
the designating information is display area
information for indicating the area restricted from
10 being provided.

5. An apparatus according to claim 3, wherein
when the data is an image, the designating
information designates a partial image, specifying an
15 object restricted from being provided, in this image.

6. An apparatus according to claim 2, further
comprising an input unit setting the control
information.
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7. A data providing method receiving request
data from a request source and providing response
data corresponding to the request data, comprising:
a step referring to control information related
25 to an area of which data is restricted from being
provided;
a step creating, when the data should be

provided as the response data, the response data in accordance with the control information by hiding the data area restricted from being provided; and
a step providing the response data.

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8. A data providing method receiving request data from a request source and providing response data corresponding to the request data, comprising:

a step recognizing said request source;

10 a step referring to control information related to data restricted from being provided depending on said request source;

a step creating the response data corresponding to the request data in accordance with the control
15 information by hiding an area restricted from being provided; and

a step providing the response data.

9. A data providing method according to claim 8,
20 wherein the control information contains information for identifying said request source, and designating information for designating a data area restricted from being provided to said request source.

25 10. A data providing method according to claim 9, wherein the designating information is display area information for indicating the area restricted

from being provided.

11. A data providing method according to claim
9, wherein when the data is an image, the designating
5 information designates a partial image, specifying an
object restricted from being provided, in this image.

12. A data providing method according to claim
8, further comprising a step setting the control
10 information.

13. A program executed by a computer receiving
request data from a request source and providing
response data corresponding to the request data,
15 comprising:

a step referring to control information related
to an area of which data is restricted from being
provided;

a step creating, when the data should be
20 provided as the response data, the response data in
accordance with the control information by hiding the
data area restricted from being provided; and

a step providing the response data.

25 14. A program executed by a computer receiving
request data from a request source and providing
response data corresponding to the request data,

comprising:

- a step recognizing said request source;
- a step referring to control information related to data restricted from being provided depending on
5 said request source;
- a step creating the response data corresponding to the request data in accordance with the control information by hiding an area restricted from being provided; and
10 a step providing the response data.

15 15. A program according to claim 14, wherein the control information contains information for identifying said request source, and designating information for designating a data area restricted from being provided to said request source.

20 16. A program according to claim 15, wherein the designating information is display area information for indicating the area restricted from being provided.

25 17. A program according to claim 15, wherein when the data is an image, the designating information designates a partial image, specifying an object restricted from being provided, in this image.

18. A program according to claim 14, further comprising a step setting the control information.

19. A storage medium that stored a program
5 executed by a computer receiving request data from a request source and providing response data corresponding to the request data, said program comprising:

10 a step referring to control information related to an area of which data is restricted from being provided;

a step creating, when the data should be provided as the response data, the response data in accordance with the control information by hiding the
15 data area restricted from being provided; and

a step providing the response data.

20. A storage medium that stored a program executed by a computer receiving request data from a
20 request source and providing response data corresponding to the request data, said program comprising:

a step recognizing said request source;

25 a step referring to control information related to data restricted from being provided depending on said request source;

a step creating the response data corresponding

to the request data in accordance with the control information by hiding an area restricted from being provided; and

a step providing the response data.

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21. A storage medium that stored a program according to claim 20, wherein the control information contains information for identifying said request source, and designating information for designating a data area restricted from being provided to said request source.

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22. A storage medium that stored a program according to claim 21, wherein the designating information is display area information for indicating the area restricted from being provided.

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23. A storage medium that stored a program according to claim 21, wherein when the data is an image, the designating information designates a partial image, specifying an object restricted from being provided, in this image.

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24. A storage medium that stored a program according to claim 20, said program further comprising a step setting the control information.

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25. An apparatus according to any one of claims 1-6, wherein said apparatus is a server.